

**Developmental Disabilities Council  
Public Policy Committee  
DRAFT MINUTES  
January 20, 2005**

Present: Sherri Huwe (chair), Janet Adams, (DDD), Angie Brothers (DOH), Joelle Brouner (WPAS), Connee Bush (DVR), Lori Flood, Sara McQueed

Absent: Kim Blume, Lori Flood, David Kludt, Julie Williamson-Purdy, Diana Zottman

Staff: Donna Patrick

Call to Order /Adjust Agenda / Approve November Minutes

Sherri called the meeting to order. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

**MOTION: Committee approves the November meeting minutes as written. Moved by Angie and seconded by Sara. Motion passed.**

Committee Operations

Sherri led a discussion of committee ground rules. There was agreement that committee members would raise their hands and wait to be called on to speak, observe speaking time limits, read materials before the meeting, use a “parking lot” to defer issues outside the agenda and gain consensus about working past 4:00. Other ideas were also discussed.

Announcements

The Council legislative conference calls will be Mondays from noon to 1:00. Donna or Ed can be contacted anytime to discuss legislative issues if that time doesn't work for someone. The conference call schedule will be posted on the Council's website.

Federal Issues

The committee discussed the new Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), using a comparison document. There are good and bad aspects of the final legislation. Connee explained the effect of IDEA

reauthorization on DVR services. They will have to decide who to serve because there will be no transition money, which will end up pitting youth against adults.

The clarifying question was asked: “What are “alternatives to corporal punishment?”

### Legislative Reception Debriefing

Council members liked the resource notebooks developed for the legislative briefing, especially the puzzle books.

Observations included:

- Good turnout of legislators
- The reception room was crowded and hot
- Food ran out – maybe go to just coffee, tea and cookies or staff food tables to make it go further
- Good comments

### Legislative Issues

The committee looked at the issues in the legislative insert to the Council’s Legislative Agenda. There is no ombudsman proposal, so it was decided to put a new issue in that place on the list.

**MOTION: Replace “Establish a disability ombudsman program” on the Council’s 2005 Legislative Issues list with “Ensure a stable provider workforce”. Moved by Lori and seconded by Sara. The motion passed. Abstentions: Janet, Angie, Connee and Joelle.**

The group discussed the proposal to merge the Home Care Quality Authority into DSHS. Lori spoke to the potential loss of the consumer’s voice and questions about rule making authority. Joelle stated that WPAS was looking into it and that their main concern was honoring and strengthening consumer voice. An advisory board in an agency would be an entirely different kind of board than the independent one they have now.

**MOTION: The DD Council opposes the bill to merge the Home Care Quality Authority into DSHS. Moved by Lori and seconded by Sara. The motion passed. Abstentions: Janet, Angie, Connee and Joelle.**

Donna explained the status of bills on birth to three, parking signs and caseload forecast. The group discussed consolidation and union jobs in the community. There was concern about disparity of wages. Janet said ADSA is developing a report "Retention of Licensed Professional" specifically regarding Fircrest that the Council might want to check. There's also information on the "New Freedom Cash and Counseling" waiver for which ADSA is applying that could change the face of how services are provided in the future. Staff will get more information on this.

#### Report to Council

- Federal and legislative issues
- The Committee's two motions.

#### Next Meeting

Discuss legislative issues.

#### Meeting was Adjourned